Revival of National Crop Insurance Scheme

2094. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to revive National Crop Insurance Scheme for increasing the participation of farmers and making the scheme more efficient;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any proposal has been received from Maharashtra Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Government is already implementing the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) for covering the risk of crop loss due to natural calamities.

(c) and (d) A proposal for raising the indemnity level under the NAIS to 90% and paying 100% premium subsidy was received from the State Government of Maharashtra. The proposal was not accepted because of increased financial liability of the Government.

Agriculture lending rate

2095. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Finance Minister had agreed to give a new deal for agriculture;

(b) if so, whether this proposal of the Finance Ministry to provide a new deal to agriculture has not been released, so far;

(c) if so, the main programmes of action the Ministry has decided to provide for promotion of agriculture in the country;

(d) whether due to slow rate of private sector investments in agriculture, the Ministry has urged for separate agriculture lending rate on the pattern of weaker sections and other such categories; and